

SCORING & HANDICAP GUIDELINES

I. SCORING LGA EVENTS

The basic process for scoring an LGA event:

- 1) Decide who in each cart is going to keep score (usually whoever is driving the cart keeps score).
- 2) One cart passenger of the foursome must open the Golf Genius app on their cell phone and enter each player's gross score after the completion of each hole. Each week the GGID (Golf Genius ID #) will be shown on the paper score card. Once the code is entered into the GG app the foursome's names will appear. Keeping score in GG improves the pace of play and allows the LGA Pro to calculate results more efficiently.
- 3) Enter only each player's **GROSS** score, including penalty strokes, for each hole on each scorecard provided by the Pro Shop. If a member of the foursome wants to keep her own score of net/gross, she should use one of the blank cards for that course.
- 4) Enter the total score for each player for each 9 and for the 18 holes.
- 5) If the event involves a team score or scores, enter the resulting score or scores where indicated on the scorecard (e.g., for a 2 best ball event, enter the total of the two lowest **NET** scores; for a 2 best ball Stableford event, enter the Stableford points for the two best balls).
- 6) Compare the two scorecards and resolve any discrepancies.
- 7) Both the scorer and the attester should sign their names on both of the scorecards. The signatures need to be legible in order for us to contact the scorer and attester in case of errors or questions.
- 8) Hand in one completed scorecard to the Pro scoring the event.
- 9) Use the other scorecard to record Ringers and Birdies. Attach scorecard to the ringer cards before returning the ringer cards to the box.
- 10) The Pro Shop posts our LGA scores into GHIN each week.

If the event is an individual format, each player must "hole out" her ball to be in contention for the tournament prizes; her score is her total strokes played on the hole plus any penalty strokes.

For team events where only 2 balls are needed, a player who is 'out of the hole' may pick up and not finish the hole in order to speed up play. See "Scoring A Hole That Has Not Been Completed" below for details on how to score the hole if ball is picked up. **Note:** If ball is picked up and hole is not completed, score cannot be used for ringer card.

The USGA Handicap Rules require that for a 9-hole score to be accepted all 9 holes must be played.

SCORING A HOLE THAT HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED

When a player starts, but does not complete a hole, the score recorded for handicap posting purposes is the *Most Likely Score*, not to exceed your net double bogey. The score for an uncompleted hole is preceded by an X.

The guidelines for determining a *Most Likely Score* as set forth by the Rules of Handicapping are as follows:

- 1) On the putting green within 5 feet of the hole, add 1 additional stroke.
- 2) Between 5 and 20 yards of the hole, add 2-3 additional strokes depending on ball's position, difficulty of the green and ability of the player.
- 3) Beyond 20 yards of the hole, add 3 or 4 additional strokes using ball's position, green difficulty and player ability as in #2.

SCORING HOLES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PLAYED

When less than 18 holes have been played, players must post a hole-by-hole score for only the holes that have been played. The system will generate a score differential for the entire 18 holes using the scores entered for the round.

II. HANDICAPS

All LGA events are organized on the basis of the handicaps of the members participating in each event. The USGA Handicap system allows players with different skill levels to play competitively.

Each member has 3 critical responsibilities in maintaining the Handicap system:

- 1) Accurately record her scores.
- 2) Timely and accurately post all acceptable rounds daily including acceptable scores from other courses.
- 3) Maintain a valid and verifiable handicap.

NOTE: The St. James Golf Handicap Committee completes monthly analyses of member posting records. The Committee compares individual member scores posted in GHIN versus rounds scheduled to play in Chelsea. The USGA requirement is that all rounds should be posted when a golfer plays in accordance with the rules of golf. The St. James Golf Handicap Committee has currently established a 95% posting rate and will follow up with any member who has not posted at or above this rate. This rate must be maintained if the member wants to participate in Club sponsored tournaments, Men's and Ladies' Golf Association events, or to have a handicap verified for any tournament outside of St. James.

There are two handicaps used in LGA events:

- 1) The **USGA Handicap Index** is the measure of a player's potential ability and, in most cases, it is based on the lowest 8 scores of the last 20 posted.
- 2) The USGA Handicap Index is used to calculate the Course Handicap. Your **Course Handicap** depends on the course being played and is used to set the number of strokes allotted to you at any LGA event; those strokes are listed on the LGA scorecard for each player.